GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3202
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2007
NEW DRAFT FOR WOMEN MARRYING OIC
Badiga Shri Ramakrishna

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any consultations between the National Commission for Women and the Ministry of Women and Child Development have been held regarding protection of Indian girls married to NRIs;

(b) if so, the outcome of such consultations;

(c) whether the draft information booklet for guidance of women planning to get married to Overseas Indians has been revised; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) & (b) : Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA) held consultations with National Commission for Women (NCW) and the Ministry of Women & Child Development to discuss the problems relating to NRI marriages. It was decided to organize joint regional workshops in the States concerned to create awareness amongst the prospective brides and their parents. Consequently, MOIA in collaboration with NCW, organized two regional workshops , one in Chandigarh and the other in Thiruvananthapuram, In the regional workshops a number of recommendations have been made which will be considered for implementation by the Ministries concerned.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. The revised guidance booklet on `Marriages to Overseas Indians` was released by the Hon`ble Prime Minister during Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, 2007 on 7th January, 2007.The guidance booklet contains information in simple language about precautions which need to be taken before entering into marital alliance with NRIs, rights of NRI spouses and Indian women, provisions in the Indian legal system relating to marriage, divorce, maintenance, etc, and help lines which can be made use of in case of any problems. It also provides an insight into realistic expectations about life abroad.